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UNITED STATES SENATE  
Committee on  
Interstate and Foreign Commerce

February 9, 1953

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Senate recently passed S. Res. 41 calling for an investigation into matters affecting interstate commerce and the security of the nation and assigned the problem to the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee of which I am Chairman.

Among other things, an inquiry was suggested into the "effectiveness of measures and efforts instituted by Government agencies to control the shipment or transshipment of exported materials to foreign countries." This practice has been termed a "Sixth Column" and seems to be developing into a matter of paramount importance to the welfare of our country. This is particularly true in view of the fact that remedial legislation appears needed to curb the practice.

The Navy Department no doubt is aware of some matters of interest in this field and I am hoping that you will authorize the appropriate persons in your department to cooperate with and make available to representatives of the Investigative Subcommittee staff information, records and other data in your department.

I want you to know that your cooperation and assistance in this matter will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Chas. W. Tobey

Chairman

Hon. R. B. Anderson  
Secretary  
Department of the Navy  
Washington, D. C.

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